

PATENT
450100-03566REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 4-11 and 16-24 are pending. Claims 1-3, 12-15, 25-36 and 39-40 are hereby canceled. Claims 37-38 were previously canceled and claims 26-30, 33 and 36 were previously withdrawn from consideration without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 4, 6, 9, 16, 18, 21 and 24 are independent.

Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for noting that claims 4-11 and 16-24 include allowable subject matter.

Claims 4, 6, 9, 16, 18, 21 and 24 have been written in independent form and are now in condition for allowance.

PATENT
450100-03566CONCLUSION

Claims 4-11 and 16-24 are in condition for allowance. In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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